



Justice Reinvestment Oversight Board

Location: Google Meeting: meet.google.com/csg-zfuu-ewf
Join by Phone: +1 224-572-8395 PIN: 369 629 314#

Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021

Time: 1:00 P.M. - 3:00 P.M.

Meeting Minutes:

Minutes pending approval from the Justice Reinvestment Oversight Board. The Board will vote on these minutes at the next convening.

I. Call to Order/Roll Call

II. Maryland Correctional Enterprises - Ashley Lohr, Acting Chief Operating Officer; Janet K. Lane, Director, Reentry Services & C.A.R.E.S Program; and Nicole Copeland, Director of Marketing

- Refer to Presentation
- Mission of Maryland Correctional Enterprises (MCE): provide work skills and work ethics to participants to develop habits that make them successful upon release.
- One of the most important components of success for reentry is obtaining and maintaining employment, and MCE/DPSCS believes that reentry efforts begin as soon as someone enters a facility.
- Non-profit entity of DPSCS and a self-supported organization to state agencies, with 26 business units and is in 11 facilities across the state.
- MCE provides the Prison Industry Enhancement Certification Program (PIECP) which is the only opportunity that partners with private sectors where participants make \$15 an hour; 20% of wages goes to victim restitution.
- Post-Release Employment: Many returning individuals found employment in many categories (mainly construction).
- Future plans: establish a training fund, expand CARES program, expand financial literacy training, grow partnerships in the community, and expand the PIECP.

III. Attorney General's Office Update on the Opioid Settlement - David Eppler, Special Assistant to Attorney General

- The Opioid Settlement is a very complex matter that is still developing.
- Johnson & Johnson Lawsuit - Primary Distributor's
 - \$26 billion agreement nationally which represents a multi-state lawsuit that Maryland is involved with.
 - Recovery may be as high as \$500 million over an 18-year period. The

Attorney General's Office is currently working to reach an agreement on what will be recovered/which formula will be used for recovery based on different considerations (i.e. population or impact of opioid epidemic).

- All of the recovered funds will be going towards opioid rehabilitation.
- Approximately 55% of the \$500 million settlement is guaranteed; the remaining percentage is contingent upon a significant portion of state subdivisions participating.
- Purdue Lawsuit
 - Purdue pharmacy is the principal opioid manufacturer in the country, the State is prosecuting against the Sackler family.
 - The Sackler family filed for bankruptcy.
 - Maryland has appealed the termination, since it is viewed as unconstitutional.

IV. Agency Updates

A. Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services - Martin Hammond, Deputy Director of Criminal Justice Programs

- Grant funding updates:
 - Pretrial Services Program Grant - the Office is in the process of reviewing grant applications for the FY 2022 program.
 - Performance Incentive Grant (PIGF) - the Office launched in November 2021; PIGF is a 6-month award which provides \$3.4 million dollars to advance Justice Reinvestment efforts. These funds come from the general funds.
 - The Office will need volunteer reviewers to assist in reviewing PIGF grant applications to ensure a timely award process.
- Workgroup updates:
 - Partial Expungement Workgroup: working to identify key themes for further discussions and focus. More specifically, they want to understand the capabilities of technology as it relates to partial expungement.
 - Restitution Workgroup: In the process of prioritizing recommendations and what to work on and next meeting will take place in December.

B. Maryland Department of Health - Bryan Mroz, Director

- Data reports: Department of Health has two new providers, bringing the total to 11 providers. There are currently 116 placements. 8-505 evaluations completed total to 191. \$5 million allocated in the budget for 8-507.
- Challenges: COVID-19 is still present, has had much of an impact throughout the pandemic.

C. Administrative Office of the Courts - Chief Judge John Morrissey, District Court of Maryland

- Data sent out quarterly for presumptive caps which has been in 80% for both categories, and it shows that judges have multiple contacts with defendants.

- As a result of the pandemic, there have been inter-court discussions about the lack of transport and how to resolve these issues.
- House Bill 316 passed as emergency bill (July 2021), unaware of whose responsibility it was until late July. Update:
 - Currently working with three home detention companies.
 - Coordinator in each District Court and Circuit Court that will verify that start and stop dates are correct.

D. Local Detention Centers - Deputy Warden MaryAnn Thompson, St. Mary's County Detention and Rehabilitation Center; and Director Gail Watts, Baltimore County Department of Corrections

- The COVID-19 pandemic continues to be a challenge in facilities, as well as staffing and funding.
- Technology, specifically embraced by the courts, has had such a positive impact.
- Detention centers look forward to continued programming
- HB116 has had its challenges; four pilot program counties are currently on board - other detention centers provide MOUD but do not provide all three formulas. Many centers have been slow to join HB116 due to space constraints, staffing, and funding.

E. Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services - Secretary Robert Green

- JRA report requires annual updates on medical parole, certificate graduation, compliance credits, cost savings update which will come in December 2021.
- Recidivism report required in FY2022 - long awaited.
- Data dashboards are all up to date.
- In-person programs are reopening, but it is beneficial to discover virtual court measures, and how to improve the virtual court experiences (i.e. sound proof booths).

F. Department of Labor - James E. Rzepkowski, Assistant Secretary, Division of Workforce Development & Adult Learning

- Reentry Navigator Program Update: launched in 2017 and currently expanding the program to four additional areas of the state.
- Tablet Program Update: 487 tablets providing educational programs in 17 areas throughout the state. Contractors began deploying programs on the tablets just last week.
- The pandemic has changed everything to technology, so it is critical to have participants getting exposure to technology.

V. Next Meeting

- Currenting investigating dates for January 2022 meeting.
- This meeting will likely take place hybrid (virtual/in-person).

VI. Good of the Order & Adjournment